

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A device for folding a continuous paper having perforations, the device comprising:

a swing arm pivotable about an axis at one end of the swing arm to guide the continuous paper to be accordion-folded along the perforations with equal widths as a result of a swinging operation of the swing arm, and

a table that receives the folded continuous paper fed via the swing arm,

wherein the swing arm includes a telescopic structure varying the length of the swing arm to at least two different lengths in a swing,

wherein the swing arm comprises an arm main body, a sub-arm, and a telescoping operation motor which extends and retracts said sub-arm from the tip of said arm main body,

[[and]]

wherein said swing arm is pivoted about said axis by a swing operation motor disposed in said axis, and

wherein said sub-arm has a pair of plate members that both project from the tip of said arm main body when the swing arm swings to either side.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A device for folding a continuous paper having perforations, the device comprising:

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a swing arm pivotable about an axis at one end of the swing arm to guide the continuous paper to be accordion-folded along the perforations and accordion-folded with equal widths as a result of a swinging operation of the swing arm, and

a table that receives the folded continuous paper fed via the swing arm,

wherein the swing arm includes a telescopic structure varying the length of the swing arm over a range of a swing of the swing arm,

wherein the swing arm comprises an arm main body, a sub-arm, and a telescoping operation motor which extends and retracts said sub-arm from the tip of said arm main body,

wherein said length of the swing arm is minimum at the center of said range and gradually increases towards extreme portions of said range, [[and]]

wherein said swing arm is pivoted about said axis by a swing operation motor disposed in said axis, and

wherein said sub-arm has a pair of plate members that both project from the tip of said arm main body when the swing arm swings to either side.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said length of the swing arm is varied such that the tip of the swing arm does not touch the top surface of said folded continuous paper.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the table is vertically movable, the device further comprising:

an error detector that detects any fold error of said continuous paper; and

a controller that recovers said device from said fold error in such a manner that, upon detection of a fold error, the swinging of the swing arm is stopped, said table is descended through a predetermined distance and then said table is ascended back to its original level.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A continuous medium printing apparatus provided with a device for folding a continuous paper having perforations, said device comprising:

a swing arm being pivotable about an axis at one end of the swing arm to guide the continuous paper to be accordion-folded along the perforations, said continuous paper being guided by the swing arm and accordion-folded with equal widths as a result of the swinging operation of the swing arm, and

a table that receives the folded continuous paper fed via the swing arm,

wherein said swing arm includes a telescopic structure such that the length of the swing arm is changed to have at least two different lengths in a swing,

wherein the swing arm comprises an arm main body, a sub-arm, and a telescoping operation motor which extends and retracts said sub-arm from the tip of said arm main body,
[[and]]

wherein said swing arm is pivoted about said axis by a swing operation motor disposed in said axis, and

wherein said sub-arm has a pair of plate members that both project from the tip of said arm main body when the swing arm swings to either side.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a creasing mechanism, and wherein said continuous paper is creased with equal widths as a result of the swinging operation of said swing arm and an operation of said creasing mechanism.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A device for folding a continuous paper having perforations, the device comprising:

a swing arm pivotable about an axis at one end of the swing arm to guide the continuous paper to be accordion-folded along the perforations with equal widths as a result of a swinging operation of said swing arm, and

a table that receives the folded continuous paper fed via the swing arm,

wherein the swing arm includes[[,]] an arm main body, a sub-arm, and a telescoping operation motor which extends and retracts said sub-arm from the tip of said arm main body,

wherein the swing arm extends in order to fold the continuous paper along the perforations when the swing arm is swayed toward two edges of the table, [[and]]

wherein said swing arm is pivoted about said axis by a swing operation motor disposed in said axis, and

wherein said sub-arm has a pair of plate members that both project from the tip of said arm main body when the swing arm swings to either side.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A device for folding a continuous paper having perforations, the device comprising:

a swing arm pivotable about an axis at one end of the swing arm to guide the continuous paper to be accordion-folded along the perforations with equal widths as a result of a swinging operation of the swing arm, and

a table that receives the folded continuous paper fed via the swing arm,

wherein the swing arm includes a telescopic structure formed with a plurality of rectangular plates, the telescopic structure varying the length of the swing arm to at least two different lengths in a swing, [[and]]

wherein the swing arm includes an arm main body, a sub-arm, and a telescoping operation motor which extends and retracts said sub-arm from the tip of said arm main body, and

wherein said sub-arm has a pair of plate members that both project from the tip of said arm main body when the swing arm swings to either side.